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DELETT
GARDENS
Atlantic, Iowa



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Seeds of Honey Plants

Offered by

PELLETT GARDENS

Atlantic, Iowa

We take pride in presenting to you this, our new seed list for winter and spring 1941. We include new items which we consider worthy of attention among beekeepers and flower growers as well.

*marks items of special merit for flower gardens.

ANISE-HYSSOP or FRAGRANT GIANT HYSSOP (*Agastache anethiodora*)

*Anise-hyssop is a native plant which was much used by the Indian. From it was made a beverage for use as we use tea. It was also used for flavoring other foods and from it was extracted a remedy for colds. It is strange that this plant should have been completely overlooked by our herb gardeners. It is very fragrant and has a long flowering period from June until October. The plant is perennial and worthy of a place in any ornamental garden as well as herb garden. As a bee plant it ranks very high. Pioneer settlers reported fine crops of honey from it. Seed 15c per packet, one-fifth oz. for \$1.00. Plants 25c each or six for \$1.00.

Yellow spider flower or GOLDEN CLEOME (*Cleome lutea*)

*Golden cleome is a native of the southwest, which has too long been overlooked as an ornamental. An annual of easy culture, it grows to a height of six or seven feet and blooms from July until frost with a constantly increasing number of flower clusters. It must have plenty of room. Plants should not be nearer than three or four feet apart. One of the finest of honey plants, attractive to many kinds of insects. 15c per packet, 85c per ounce.

BURNET (*Sanguisorbia minor*)

This hardy perennial native to Eurasia is sometimes grown in the flower garden as an ornamental, in the vegetable garden

as a salad plant and in the field as a forage crop. It is very drouth resistant and easily grown. It is very attractive to the bees, blooming in midsummer for several weeks, but apparently is sought mostly for pollen. Seed 15c per packet, one-fourth lb. \$1.00.

SAINFOIN or ESPARSET (*Onobrychis sativa*)

Sainfoin is the main source of hay in many European countries. It is drouth resistant and will grow on soils where the clovers do poorly. The flowers are so attractive as to make it worth growing in the flower garden as well as in the field. As a honey plant it has few equals as the bees visit the flowers freely from the time of the first opening until the last have faded. The honey is of fine quality, and that most often found in the stores of Paris, France, is from this source. Seed 15c per packet, \$1.00 per pound.

INDIAN POSEY or BUTTERFLY WEED (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

*This perennial is one of the most attractive of our native prairie wild flowers. It is rich in nectar and attracts many kinds of insects beside bees. It brings so many butterflies that it is known to many as "butterfly weed". It should be included in every list of hardy perennials as well as bee plants. It is reported as the source of much fine honey in pioneer days. Seed 15c per packet.

SAGE (*Salvia*)

The garden sage has been cultivated for centuries for its aromatic leaves which are used in flavoring foods. It is a long lived perennial and should be included in every garden. The flowers are attractive to the bees and a high quality honey is gathered from garden sage. Seed 15c per packet.

MEADOW SAGE (*Salvia azurea*)

*The meadow sage is a tall growing perennial native to the southern states. It is a highly desirable garden flower reaching a height of four or five feet. Seed 15c per packet.

LAVENDER (Lavendula vera)

*Lavender comes from Europe where it is commonly cultivated as the source of oil used in perfume. Lavender flowers have a strong and fragrant odor which is retained after drying and for this reason it is often put away with dainty fabrics. The flowering period is long and the plant is very desirable in the garden as well as for the bees which gather honey freely from this source. Seed 15c per packet.

PRICKLY POPPY (Argemone)

The white prickly poppy is native to the southwest and is a common sight from Kansas to Texas. It is an annual of easy culture and with large white flowers for a long time in summer. The bees are much attracted to this plant for pollen. Seed 15c per packet.

POLANISIA (Polanisia trachysperma)

Native to the southwest, polanisia is very similar to the cleomes in habit of growth and much like the spider flower. Long blooming period. Don't crowd. Annual. 15c per packet.

CATNIP (Nepeta Cataria)

Catnip is a famous bee plant common to our grandmother's herb gardens. It has since been widely naturalized in fence corners and unused gardens. Perennial, blooming over a long period and never failing to attract the bees.

15c per packet, 2 oz. \$1.00.

WINGSTEM OR CROWNBEARD

(Actinomeris alternifolia)

Wingstem is a rather coarse perennial about five feet tall with irregular yellow flowers. It never fails to find the bees working it freely when in bloom. One of the best of the native honey plants of the Mississippi Valley. Will grow in either sun or shade. Beekeepers of an earlier day called it "Golden Honey Plant." Where this plant is plentiful the beekeeper need never worry about abundant stores for winter. August bloomer. Fine for waste land. 15c per packet, 3 oz. \$1.00.

FIGWORT (*Scrophularia marilandica*)

Figwort is a never failing attraction to the bees, but its flowers are small and with little attraction as an ornamental. It grows to a height of about five feet and once established in either sun or shade provides rich bee pasture. A perennial which the beekeeper will do well to plant on waste lands. It had a great boom about fifty years ago under name, "Simpsons Honey Plant." The seed is very small.

15c per packet, 2 oz. \$1.00.

WILD SENNA (*Cassia marilandica*)

*An attractive perennial native to the northeastern states. Grows to a height of four feet. Attractive in both foliage and flower. Brings bumblebees and butterflies. 15c per packet, 3 oz. for \$1.00.

TRUMPET CREEPER (*Tecoma radicans*)

Trumpet creeper is a slow growing perennial vine known in some localities as cow-itch and cross-vine. The showy blossoms attract many moths and hummingbirds as well as bees. Plant where it won't crowd as it has a tendency to spread from the root. 15c per packet.

ASTER

*The asters are the last source of nectar in many localities. We offer several of the most ornamental varieties including New England aster, smooth aster, silky aster and arrow leaf aster. All are worthy of a place in any garden. Perennial. 15c per packet.

LIATRIS

*Liatris offered an abundant pasture for the settlers' bees where the prairies were opened for homestead. There are several varieties which are wonderful garden flowers as well as bee plants, flowering in midsummer. The two most showy ones, the Kansas gayfeather and the blazing-star is what we offer. Perennial. 15c packet.

LESPEDEZA

* *Lespedeza bicolor* is a shrubby variety from Japan which blooms very freely in late summer and is very attractive to the bees. Reaching a height of about six feet this one is well suited for screen or hedge. Perennial. 15c packet.

* *Lespedeza cyrtobotra* is another shrubby species from Asia. It is perennial and requires about three years to reach full maturity. It begins blooming in the second season and is very attractive to the bees. This species apparently yields more nectar than any lespedeza that we have thus far been able to secure. It reaches a height of about six feet on our grounds. Seed 15c per packet.

BIRDSFOOT TREFOIL

(*Lotus corniculatus*)

Birdsfoot trefoil is a very drought resistant perennial which is a valuable addition to permanent pastures. In England it is regarded as a valuable bee plant. In this country the bees visit the plant freely but as yet it has not been tried sufficiently to test its value as a source of honey. A very promising new legume which should find a place on the general farm. Blooms very freely in mid-summer and the yellow flowers are very attractive.

15c packet, 30c per ounce.

**Seed of any of the above, 15c per packet,
or eight packets for one dollar.**

**Twenty packets for two dollars.
All prices postpaid.**

MELVIN PELLETT

Pellett Gardens
Atlantic, Iowa

